

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 01659 191413Z

15

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SAJ-01 OFA-01 EB-03 PRS-01

OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-03 DLOS-03 SAL-01 ACDA-05 /058 W

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R 191234Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 557

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 01659

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IC, UK, NATO, NAC, EFIS, PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: UK/ICELAND FISHERIES DISPUTE

REF: USNATO 862

1. DURING OCCASION OFFERED BY AMBASSADOR CURLEY'S CALL ON EC COMMISSIONER IN CHARGE OF REGIONAL POLICY GEORGE THOMSON, WE NOTED NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL DESCRIBED REFTTEL AND ASKED THOMSON WHETHER AID FROM COMMUNITY'S REGIONAL AND/OR SOCIAL FUNDS EITHER HAVE BEEN OR MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST UK FISHERMEN SHOULD UK AGREE TO WITHDRAW THEIR FLEETS.

2. THOMSON EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PROPOSAL AND CONFIRMED THAT (A) AREAS IN UK IN WHICH FLEETS ARE BASED ARE ALL ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THESE FUNDS AND (B) SOME REGIONAL FUND GRATNS HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN TARGETED ON AT LEAST A FEW OF THEM. HE ADDED THAT USE OF REGIONAL FUND GRANTS IS INITIALLY IN HANDS OF UK GOVERNMENT AND THAT, SHOULD GOVERNMENT WISH TO ASSIGN HIGHER PRIORITY TO THEIR USE IN FISHING PORTS RATHER THAN, FOR EXAMPLE, FOR STEEL

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 01659 191413Z

PLANT MODERNIZATION IN SCOTLAND OR COAL MINE RECONVERSION

IN WALES, THE EC COMMISSION WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY AGREE.

3. THOMSON CAUTIONED THT, WHILE SOME EXISTING EC FUNDS
COULD BE DIVERTED TO THIS PURPOSE, THEY WOULD PROBABLY
NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO DO AN EFFECTIVE JOB ALONE. EITHER
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE NEEDED OR THE EC REGIONAL/
SOCIAL FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO BE INCREASED. HE FELT THAT,
SHOULD THE UK DECIDE TO ASSIGN A HIGHER PRIORITY TO THE
FISHING PORTS, THE COMMISSION COULD RESPOND PROMPTLY WITH
GRANTS. IN ANY CASE, IT WOULD BE UP TO THE BRITISH TO
MAKE THE FIRST MOVE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, FISHING INDUSTRY, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, FISHING DISPUTES, FISHING BOATS, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU01659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760063-0483
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760236/aaaabeyu.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK/ICELAND FISHERIES DISPUTE
TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK, NATO, NAC, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006